

Mr. Speaker, when faced with terror and hatred, our Nation is tested. This House of Representatives is tested. And we are failing that test.

Shame on us if we cannot close the loophole that lets people on the terrorist watch list buy AR-15s. I am so tired of the House majority's pitiful excuses. Why does this majority allow suspected terrorists to buy guns? Why does this majority refuse to close the terrorist loophole and strengthen background checks? Mr. Speaker, I am ashamed of this institution.

Let us vote today. Let us vote to keep dangerous weapons out of the hands of suspected terrorists. Let us vote so everyone can see where we stand and who we stand with.

Mr. Speaker, I stand with every American who rightly believes that if you are on the terrorist watch list, you can't buy weapons that can be used in the next mass shooting. That is where I stand, Mr. Speaker.

Where do you stand?

GOD BLESS THE FLAG AND VETERANS WHO CARRY IT

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, our veterans face many challenges when they return home from war, both physical and psychological. All too often, the latter is overlooked. An estimated 22 veterans per day take their own life, many of them struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder.

One Michigan veteran, Marty Wills, is embarking on an incredible journey to raise awareness about PTSD and mental health issues. Carrying an American flag, he is walking more than 1,000 miles from his home in Michigan to North Carolina. Last week, he went through several cities in my district, including Jonesville, Hillsdale, Hudson, Adrian, and Blissfield.

On Flag Day, as we commemorate Old Glory and the freedom and liberty she represents, let's also remember the brave men and women who fight in harm's way in defense of those freedoms. And when they get home, let's do everything we can to get our veterans the help they need for wounds, both seen and unseen.

ORLANDO TRAGEDY

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of those whose lives were lost in my home State at Pulse nightclub in Orlando. Floridians, Americans, and people around the world are in mourning today, grieving for those young lives lost and for their families.

When will this body finally say "enough"? Gun violence is a public health crisis, and we must do better.

No one needs an AR-15 assault rifle. This was the weapon of war that was used in Newtown, Aurora, and San Bernardino. We need to reinstate the assault weapon ban to reduce the chances that we have more tragedies.

People on the terrorist watch list should not be able to get a gun. This is common sense, but the majority continues to block this critical security measure.

I also rise to commend our law enforcement and healthcare professionals whose lifesaving work is ongoing. Acts of love like these will always conquer hate. They always have.

The American people will continue to stand with our LGBTQ and Latino brothers and sisters, and we will work that much harder and that much smarter and that much faster to ensure their safety and equal rights in their communities.

Love will win. Hate will be defeated.

FLAG DAY AND COLLIN COUNTY FLAG CEREMONY

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of Flag Day, a special day when we reflect on what our American flag stands for and how blessed we are to live in this great Nation that celebrates freedom.

I believe this reflection is particularly important given this weekend's ISIS-inspired terrorist attack. There are those who seek to destroy our way of life, and we must actively defend our freedom.

So, as our American flag waives proudly today and we reflect on its symbol of hope, I invite Collin County folks to join me this Saturday for a special event that I will be hosting—the inaugural "Honor our Stars and Stripes" flag retirement ceremony. I hope you will join me for this unique program that honors our flag and our country's unique founding.

God bless America. I salute you.

CLOSE THE DEADLY LOOPHOLE

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, like my colleagues and so many Americans, I am horrified by the brutal act of terror that killed 49 people, including Tevin Crosby, a 25-year-old man from my district, and that wounded so many others in Orlando. I stand with the loved ones of those lost and with the LGBT community that has suffered this unimaginable act of violence.

You know, as our country works to heal from this latest deadliest mass shooting ever, Congress has got to do its job. We can act on this floor to protect American citizens by making sure that, if an individual is on the terrorist watch list, they cannot fly on a plane.

For God's sake, they should not be able to go and buy a weapon. The shooter in Orlando had been on the terror watch list and was able to go buy three weapons, including an AR-15.

Congressman PETER KING of New York's bill would stop this. I join with him, and I ask all Members of Congress, please, let's not let this moment pass. Let's take action.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

(Mr. MEADOWS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service of two men from western North Carolina: John Queen, III, and Don Smart. Recently, they were inducted into the Western North Carolina Agricultural Hall of Fame.

As those plaques were put on the wall, it really didn't share the entire story, the entire story of who they are and how they serve their communities so well, not only in Haywood County but throughout all of western North Carolina.

These two men, whether it was with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, both on the local and national level, or whether it was with different associations of growers and farmers and the Farm Bureau, as is the case with Don Smart, served their community and have made their community better.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to not only acknowledge their service but also to acknowledge their friendship because they have helped me understand the agriculture community in a way that profoundly can only be done by those who are in it.

So, with this, we honor them today and their induction into the Western North Carolina Agricultural Hall of Fame.

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IT IS TIME FOR CONGRESS TO ACT

(Mrs. LAWRENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for a call to action. Over 200 years ago, when our Constitution was authored, it ignored the backbone of the American people: women, African Americans, Latinos, and even White men who did not own property.

However, the beauty of our Constitution and our democracy is our ability to change. The power to amend the United States Constitution is the power to protect and reflect the will of the people.

Our forefathers could not anticipate the introduction of assault rifles into the United States. They could not anticipate that 32,000 Americans per year